GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:247
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2016
Telecom Sector
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobs directly or/and indirectly created by telecom sector during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government is aware of numerous jobs expected to be generated by this sector and its allies as envisaged by India Skills Report, 2016;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon;

(d) whether only a small proportion of the population in rural areas is using mobile and internet facility in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the measures taken/being taken by the Government to improve the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *247 FOR 11TH MAY, 2016 REGARDING "TELECOM SECTOR ".

(a) The number of Jobs directly or/and indirectly created by telecom sector during each of the last three years and the current year are contained in the table below

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S No Financial Year Direct Jobs Indirect Jobs Total
1 2013-14 39,089 50,545 89,634
2 2014-15 24,573 37,000 61,573
3 2015-16 49,071 45,223 94,294
4 2016-17
(till 30-04-16) 2,313 6,369 8,682
Total 1,15,046 1,39,137 2,54,183
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It is further submitted that above are the created Jobs that have been captured from major Service Providers to the extent maintained by them.

(b) & (c) Yes, the Government is aware of numerous jobs expected to be generated by this sector and its allies as envisaged by India Skill Report, 2016. In fact anticipating the need, the Government has already conducted the Skill Gap study for telecom sector. The Skill Gap study for telecom sector was conducted under the aegis of National Skill Development Corporation with the support of DOT in 2013-14 to assess the manpower requirement (2013-2022) at different skill and expertise levels to identify the relevant needs of the Telecom Sector and prepare a roadmap.

The Skill Gap study report of the Government states : The Telecom Industry is expected to generate significant number of new jobs and that in 2013 total Telecommunications Workforce was 2.08 million and is expected to rise to 4.16 million by 2022 thus creating need for further 2.08 million telecom skilled manpower.

As per report, the sub-sector wise skill requirements in Telecom Sector are :
(All figures in lakhs)

<pre>
SLNO Sector Work Force 2013 Work Force 2022 GAP
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1. Service Providers 06.19 11.87 05.68
2. Infra Providers 00.96 01.31 00.35
3. Telecom Eqpt Manufacturers 04.51
06.36
01.85

4. Network & IT Vendor 04.55 07.68 03.13
5. Telecom Retail 04.60 14.38 09.78
6. Total 20.81 41.60 20.79
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In addition to skill gap analysis done by the Government, private entities have also stepped in, one such series of reports are India Skill Report 2015, India skill Report 2016 etc.
Contdâ€¦3/-

India Skill Report 2016 launched on 26-11-15 has been produced by People Strong & Wheebox in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), LinkedIn and Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

The key points of India Skills Report 2016 are briefed below:

(i) the report has appreciated the National Career Service initiative of the Govt which focuses on connecting all existing employment exchanges of the country and creates a kind of employment exchange board. The report says that NCS is expected to act as one-stop platform for both employees and employer. Currently 2 cr job seekers are already on board on this online platform.

(ii) the report appreciates Skill India initiative of the Govt to skill train about 120 lakh youth in the country within a small span of time This would make India the Human Resource Capital of the world.

(iii) the employability index showed a minor improvement from last year, rising to 38.12% from 37.22%. The hiring sentiment also looks positive, with employers across sectors expecting an average increase of about 14.5 % from last year's hiring numbers.

(iv) the report states that the percentage increase in hiring is 25 % in Telecom and allied services − this is the highest in comparison to all sectors.

The Government is fully aware of the Telecom Sector job generation and the need for telecom skilled manpower so that Telecom industry does not feel the shortage of skilled manpower and the telecom growth story continues.

As a result of emphasis led on skilling youth in the Telecom Sector, 6,40,210 skill development trainings have already been provided in last 03 financial years till 31/03/2016. Further, it is proposed to provide skill development trainings to over 2 lakh candidates in the financial year 2016-17 and still further in subsequent years to cater the projected needs of the Telecom Sector.

(d) No, it is not correct to say that only small proportion of population in rural areas is using mobile and internet facility in the country. The following data is placed herewith to establish the same :

i. Total telephones as on 29/02/2016 (in millions) : 1052.38
ii. Total rural telephones as on 29/02/2016 (in millions) : 441.99
iii. Over all Tele-density as on 29/02/2016 : 82.93 %
iv. Rural Tele-density as on 29/02/2016 : 50.63 %

Further since mobile penetration is increasing and smart phone prices are declining day-by-day, the mobile broadband usage is on the rising accordingly.

(e) Although there is a considerable penetration of mobile and the internet in rural India, yet the Government continuously strives to improve the same still further. Following measures have been taken by the Government to increase mobile and internet penetration in rural area :

i) BBNL has been mandated to provide Infrastructure for broadband connectivity in all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats of the Country. The work is to be executed in phases. Under phase −I, one lakh GPs shall be provided with the connectivity by March' 2017.

ii) Rural Wireline Broadband : For providing broadband connectivity to rural & remote areas, USOF (Universal Service Obligation Fund) has signed an Agreement with state owned BSNL on January 20, 2009 under the Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme to provide wire-line broadband connectivity to rural & remote areas by leveraging the existing rural exchanges infrastructure and copper wire-line network. This scheme is being implemented at pan-India level.

Under this scheme, BSNL will provide 8,88,832 wire-line Broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions and will set up 28,672 Kiosks over a period of 6-years, i.e., by 2015. The estimated subsidy outflow is Rs. 1500 crore in 5 years' time.

The roll out period of the scheme is over in January, 2015. Under this scheme, a total of 6,56,345 broadband connections and 15,671 kiosks have been provided.

iii) Government PSU, the BSNL has taken under mentioned steps towards rural mobile and internet services :

1) Augmentation of broadband speed up to 2Mbps for all the customers including rural
2) BSNL has extended its services to approx 1,70,000 villages and providing rural broadband at discounted tariffs in association with USOF.
3) BSNL is partnering with DIT to provide broadband connectivity to approx 1,00,000 service centers in rural India.
4) BSNL has provided cellular coverage to 68.6 % villages.

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